

Final Report: *Anarchism Without Adjectives:  
On the Work of Christopher D'Arcangelo (1975-1979)*  
September 4<sup>th</sup> to October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery



galerie **leonard  
& bina  
ellen**  
art gallery

***ANARCHISM WITHOUT ADJECTIVES: ON THE WORK OF CHRISTOPHER  
D'ARCANVELO (1975-1979)***



Exhibition tour with Michèle Thériault, Sept. 12, 2013. Photo: Paul Litherland.

## EXHIBITION PROGRAMMING YEAR 2013-2014

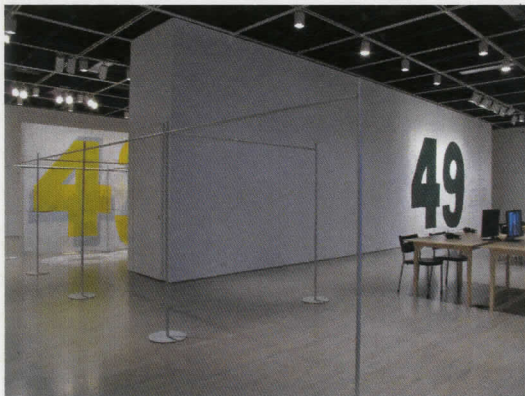
**Exhibition Title:** *ANARCHISM WITHOUT ADJECTIVES: ON THE WORK OF CHRISTOPHER D'ARCANGELO (1975-1979)*

**Curators:** Sébastien Pluot and Dean Inkster in collaboration with Michèle Thériault

**Artists:** Video interviews with Stephen Antonakos, Benjamin H. D. Buchloh, Daniel Buren, Ben Kinmont, Peter Nadin, Naomi Spector, Lawrence Weiner. With the participation of Pierre Bal-Blanc, Sophie Bélair Clément, Simon Brown, Ben Kinmont, Silvia Kolbowski, Pierre Leguillon, François Lemieux, Rainer Oldendorf, Émilie Parendeau, Nicoline van Harskamp.

**Exhibition Dates:** September 4<sup>th</sup> to October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

**Opening:** September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013. Prior to the opening, there was an event, Meet the Curators at 4:30pm.



Installation view. Photo: Paul Smith.



**EXHIBITION DESCRIPTION** (Text taken from press release)

*When I state that I am an anarchist, I must also state that I am not an anarchist, to be in keeping with the (...) idea of anarchism. Long live anarchism. - Christopher D'Arcangelo*

Between 1975 and 1979, the North American artist Christopher D'Arcangelo (1955-1979) developed an artistic practice that was notable for its radicality and critical import concerning the role of the artist, the status of the art object and the institutionalization of art. A desire for a radical democratization of the production and reception of art motivated D'Arcangelo's institutional critique, which he voiced in a statement on anarchism.

Although interest in D'Arcangelo has not been entirely absent over the last thirty years, to date, no posthumous exhibition or critical evaluation of his work has been undertaken. The written and visual documents that D'Arcangelo compiled to chronicle his practice have been made available at the Fales Library & Special Collections, New York University, following a donation by Cathy Weiner and the D'Arcangelo Family Partnership to the library's "Downtown Collection" in 2009.

Testifying to an artist engaged in a critique of the social conditions and repercussions of art, and whose work is accessible solely in the form of an archive, represents a challenge to both contemporary art history and curatorial practice. It is this challenge, along with the paradoxes and critical complexities D'Arcangelo's work and legacy raise, that the exhibition considers and analyzes.

For the current presentation of this evolving exhibition, inaugurated at the CAC Brétigny in 2011, the curators, in collaboration with Michèle Thériault, have invited local and international artists, some of whom have previously participated, to contribute existing or new works as a means of generating further dialogue on the contemporary significance of the questions Christopher D'Arcangelo raised in his practice.

*The exhibition is made possible by the Canada Council for the Arts and the Service de Coopération et d'Action Culturelle du Consulat Général de France à Québec with the support of the Institut Supérieur des Beaux-Arts, Besançon/Franche-Comté.*

*The video interviews are co-produced by Solang Production Paris Brussels, the Centro Cultural Montehermoso Kulturunea (Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain) and the Centre d'art contemporain de Brétigny (France), in partnership with Artists Space (New York). Additional support was provided by the Centre National des Arts Plastiques (France) and the Villa Médicis Hors les Murs program.*



Installation view. Photo: Paul Litherland.

## **PUBLIC PROGRAMS / SPECIAL EVENTS**

Several free activities were organized in conjunction with the exhibition, *Anarchism Without Adjectives: On the Work of Christopher D'Arcangelo (1975-1979)*.

- Tour of the Exhibition with Sébastien Pluot and Dean Inkster  
September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 4:30 – 5:30
- Tour of the Exhibition with Michèle Thériault
- Artist-run Rendez-vous (Office of Student Relations, Faculty of Fine Arts)
- Workshop with artist Rainer Oldendorf, September 20, 21, 22
- Workshop with artist Émilie Parendeau, October 18, 19, 20

## **PUBLICATIONS**

French and English text written by the curators, Sébastien Pluot and Dean Inkster, were made available to the public for on site consultation. These texts were descriptions of Christopher D'Arcangelo's actions.

*Ways of Thinking / Pistes des réflexions* booklets were produced for this exhibition, on-line versions were available via the Gallery's website:  
[http://ellengallery.concordia.ca/en/reflexion\\_darcangelo.php](http://ellengallery.concordia.ca/en/reflexion_darcangelo.php)

## **PRESS REVIEW**

Canadian Art, "Must-Sees This Week: August 29 To September 4, 2013", *Canadian Art* (August 29, 2013). <http://www.canadianart.ca/openings/2013/08/29/openings-strange-representations/>

Reilley Bishop-Stall and Natalie Zayne Bussey, "The September Issue: Where to Get Art and Culture in Montreal this Fall," *The Passenger Art* (September 9, 2013).  
<http://passengerart.com/2013/09/11/the-september-issue-where-to-get-art-and-culture-in-montreal-this-fall/>

Marie-Ève Charron, "Galleries et centres d'artistes – Changement de cycle," *Le devoir* (24 août 2013).  
<http://www.ledevoir.com/culture/arts-visuels/385748/changement-de-cycle>

Nicolas Mavrikakis, "De la nécessité de la critique institutionnelle," *Le Devoir* (1 octobre, 2013).  
<http://www.ledevoir.com/culture/arts-visuels/388466/de-la-necessite-de-la-critique-institutionnelle>

Juan Velasquez-Buritica, "The white box, interrupted," *The McGill Daily* (Sept. 9, 2013),  
<http://www.mcgilldaily.com/2013/09/the-white-box-interrupted/>

Concordia University, "Preview: Anarchism Without Adjectives," *Concordia University News stories* (August 28, 2013).  
<http://www.concordia.ca/news/stories/2013/08/28/preview-anarchismwithoutadjectives.html>



#### **ATTENDANCE:** (39 days)

Total Exhibition Attendance: 1601

September 3, 2013, 4:30-5:30 pm – Curators Tour: 53,

September 3, 2013, 5:30-7:30 pm Vernissage 5:30-7:30: 196

September 12, 3 pm - Tour with Michèle Thériault: 42

October 24, 6-8 pm – Artist-run Rendez-Vous (Office of Student Relations): 203

*\* This exhibition was very well attended with several tours and workshops booked with Marina Polosa, Education & Public Program Coordinator (See Education Final Report).*

#### **DOCUMENTATION**

Digital images by Paul Litherland/Studio Lux or Paul Smith © Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery, Concordia University, Montreal.

#### **LIST OF WORKS**

1. Interviews conducted by Dean Inkster and Sébastien Pluot.

**Interview with Peter Nadin**

New York, September 2005. Video. 26 min. 50 sec.

Directed by: Sébastien Pluot

Edited by: Dean Inkster, Julien Loustau + Sébastien Pluot

Technical assistance by: Joachim Delgado

French subtitles by: Lore Gablier

**Interview with Ben Kinmont**

Paris, December 2010. Video. 45 min. 23 sec.

Directed by: Sébastien Pluot (assisted by Hugo Brégeau, Nicolas

Davenel + Clémence de Montgolfier)

Edited by: Dean Inkster, Julien Loustau + Sébastien Pluot

Technical assistance by: Joachim Delgado

French subtitles by: Lore Gablier

**Interview with Lawrence Weiner**

New York, September 2005. Video. 13 min. 04 sec.

Directed by: Sébastien Pluot

Editing by: Dean Inkster, Julien Loustau + Sébastien Pluot

Technical assistance by: Joachim Delgado

French subtitles by: Lore Gablier

Archives: Lawrence Weiner

**Interview with Benjamin H. D. Buchloh**

Paris, December 2010. Video. 52 min. 58 sec.

Directed by: Sébastien Pluot (assisted by Hugo Brégeau, Nicolas

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Archives: Cathy Weiner, D'Arcangelo Family Partnership, Fales

Library & Special Collections, New York University Libraries

**Interview with Daniel Buren**

Varenne-Jarcy, January 2006. Video. 37 min. 02 sec.  
Directed by: Sébastien Pluot  
Edited by: Dean Inkster, Julien Loustau + Sébastien Pluot  
Technical assistance by: Joachim Delgado  
English subtitles by: Dean Inkster  
Archives: Daniel Buren, Peter Nadin

**Interview with Stephen Antonakos et Naomi Spector**

New York, novembre 2010. Video. 19 min. 52 sec.  
Directed by: Sébastien Pluot  
Edited by: Dean Inkster, Julien Loustau + Sébastien Pluot  
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Archives: Stephen Antonakos, Cathy Weiner, D'Arcangelo Family  
Partnership, Fales Library & Special Collections, New York University  
Libraries. Photography © Cathy Weiner

*With thanks: Stephen Antonakos, Xabier Arakistain, Pierre Bal-Blanc, Beatriz Herráez, Gregory Lang, Jean-Jacques Palix, Raphaele Shirley, Naomi Spector, Benjamin H. D. Buchloh, Annick Boisnard, Daniel Buren, Sophie Streefkerk, Ben Kinmont, Lore Gablier, Peter Nadin.*

*The video interviews are co-produced by Solang Production Paris Brussels, Centro Cultural Montehermoso Kulturunea (Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain) and Centre d'art contemporain de Brétigny (France) in partnership with Artists Space (New York). Additional support was provided by the Centre National des Arts Plastiques and the program Villa Médicis Hors les Murs (France).*

*In memory of Stephen Antonakos (1926-2013).*

2. Pierre Bal-Blanc

**Tomorrow I Go to the MoMA**, 2012.

Video documentation of his presentation within the framework of the symposium, *How Are We Performing Today? New Formats, Places, and Practices of Performance-Related Art*, MoMA, November 17, 2012. 26 min. 47 sec.

Video Recordings of Museum-Related Events, 2013-3. The Museum of Modern Art Archives, New York.

3. Simon Brown

**Chris, Simon & Jennifer**, 2013. Photocopied publication.

Courtesy of the artist.

4. Silvia Kolbowski

**an inadequate history of conceptual art**, 1998/1999. Video and sound looped 55 min.

This presentation is an excerpt of the work that combines audio and video. The original work is longer and separates the audio and video into separate but interconnected rooms.

Courtesy of the artist.

5. Nicoline van Harskamp

**Yours in Solidarity**, 2013. 80 framed notes on A4 paper, 2 subtitled audio tracks (21. min 30 sec. and 28 min. 19 sec.), 1 video track (43 min. 46 sec.)

Made possible with the generous support of Netherlands Film Fund, Mondriaan Fund, Rijksakademie, International Institute for Social History, Amsterdam. Courtesy of D+T Project, Gallery, Brussels.

6. Rainer Oldendorf

**We Intended to Provoke Them, Didn't We? They Just Wanted to Try Something Out. Reading Reading Notes**, 1974-2013. Contribution to "Anarchism Without Adjectives : On the Work of Christopher D'Arcangelo, 1975-1979". Sculpture and painting.

Courtesy the artist and Galerie Erna Hecey, Brussels.

7. **Struc-Tube exhibition system**

George Nelson Office, 1947  
(reconstruction by Martin Beck, 2005). Aluminum.

8. Ben Kinmont

**Project Series: Christopher D'Arcangelo Distribution** (March 5, 2005, Paris). Video documentation of an action at the Louvre, Paris. 17 min. 10 sec.

**Project Series: Christopher D'Arcangelo, Paris:** Antinomian Press, 2005. A4 publication (originally written in 1997). Document downloaded, 2013: <http://www.antinomianpress.org>.

**Reprint, Leonard & Bina Ellen Gallery, 2013.**

Courtesy of the artist.

9. Sophie Bélair Clément

**Reads Plato's Parmenides? 1978, 2005, 2013, 2013.**

Wall paint, self-adhesive vinyl, monitor, DVD, audio, vinyl digital prints, chair.

Courtesy of the artist.

10. François Lemieux

**« Et la télévision inventa le samedi matin », 2013.**

Framed bibliography, poem available at the reception desk.

Courtesy of the artist.

11. Émilie Parendeau

**Artist as Assistant, 2013.**

Books and photocopies

Courtesy of the artist.

12. Pierre Leguillon

**Untitled, 2008.** Digital transfer of an original slide (60 x 60 mm), photographic inkjet print.

Photograph taken at the Bibliothèque Kandinsky, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, June 2008. The slide shows a double-page spread from Christopher D'Arcangelo's "LAICA as an Alternative to Museums," published in LAICA: Journal of the Los Angeles Institute of Contemporary Art, no. 13, January/February 1977.

Courtesy of the artist.

**13. Guide to the Christopher D'Arcangelo Papers 1965-2003.**

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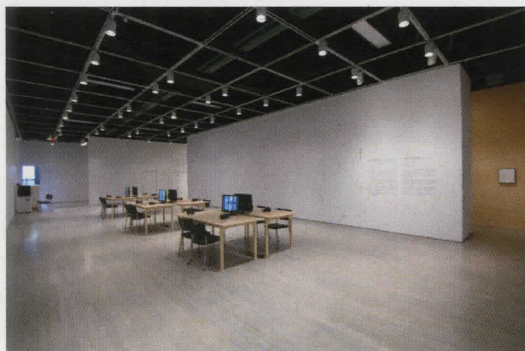
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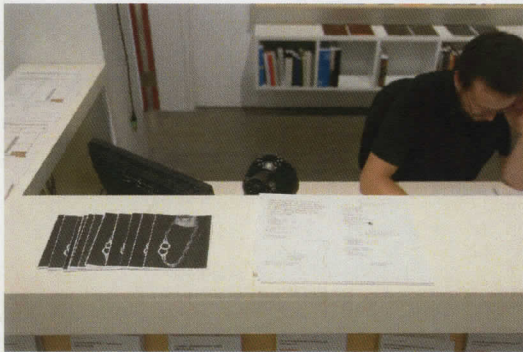


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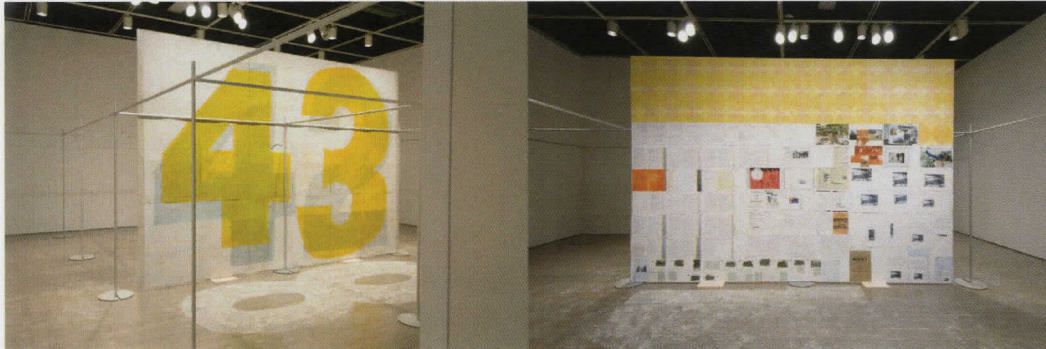


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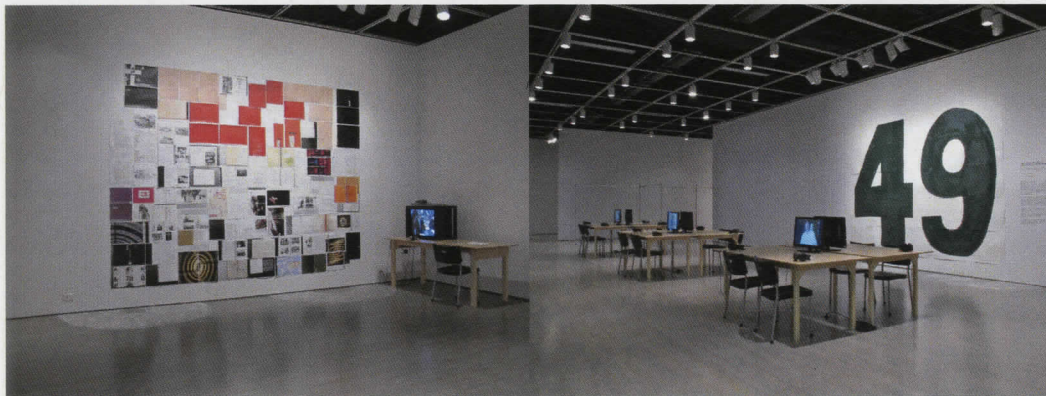


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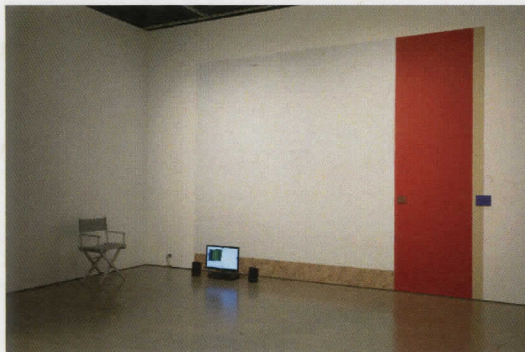


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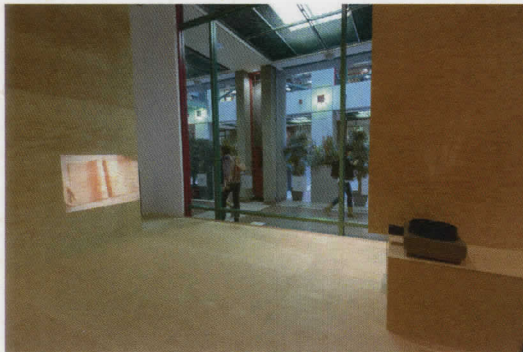


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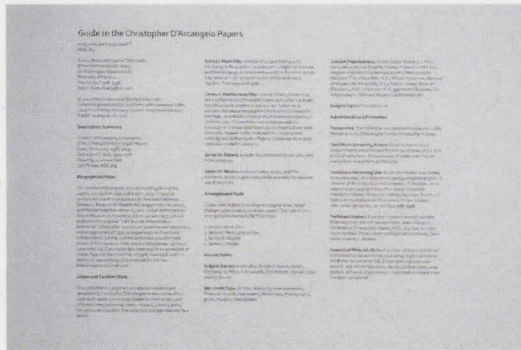


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